

The Times
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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1902.

EDUCATION IN VIRGINIA.

In the Educational Department of The Times this morning we give our readers a thoughtful and practical article on the "Educational Needs of Virginia" from the pen of Professor Linus W. Kline, of the Farmville Normal School. Dr. Kline is not merely an educated man—he is an educator. He has made the art of teaching a study, and few men in this country better understand this art. He has taught four years in the public schools of Virginia, has recently visited the schools of several counties and has personal knowledge of the school systems of four of the States. For three years he taught in the city schools of Houston, Texas; the last three years he has spent in training teachers in Virginia and Minnesota. His school experience covers a period of sixteen years, ten of which were devoted to teaching and six to work in universities. Dr. Kline is, therefore, in a position to speak intelligently upon the subject under discussion, and we invite special attention to his remarks concerning educational needs in Virginia.

First of all, he tells the painful truth that our educational machinery is among the poorest in the Union and says that this is true, in spite of the fact that Virginia is giving, and has always given, liberally of her substance for this support. "The scholastic product of our schools is of such inferior quality," he proceeds, "the teaching is so poor, the supervision is so farcical and negligent and public sentiment so lethargic that competent critics and educators have thus far viewed the situation either in pitying silence or expressed themselves in terms of humiliation or of disgust or of severe ridicule." That seems like a harsh saying, yet we know that Dr. Kline does not mean to be harsh. He is simply stating a condition as he sees it. He has personally investigated the system of teaching in some of the country schools, and he says that in many instances it seems to him useless. We cannot correct an evil until we confess it. There is no disposition on the part of Dr. Kline or Dr. Frazer or Dr. Curry or The Richmond Times or any of those who are criticizing the public school system of Virginia to do injustice or to underrate the service that is being done. There is much good in our public school system. There are many faithful men and women engaged in this work and they are doing a good work. But there are also serious faults in the system and they must be pointed out and exposed, and if necessary ridiculed, as a step preliminary to their correction.

Dr. Kline further on in his article says that we need first of all a higher public sentiment in Virginia. This Times has said this more than once. We need a better sentiment among the educated classes, among those who have not been in the habit of patronizing public schools. The old Virginia free school was held much in contempt by the "aristocracy." There is the same sort of feeling among a certain class in Virginia to-day. As we said last Sunday, these people are disposed to throw a sop to the public school system in the way of a yearly tax and then to wash their hands of the whole business. We cannot reasonably expect the system to flourish unless the schools are supported by the best sentiment in the State, unless they have the moral as well as the material support of the tax-payers at large. These articles which The Times is now publishing are addressed especially to the educated class. We desire to point to all, but especially to these that popular education is necessary to a better citizenship, necessary to keep Virginia abreast with the progressive States of the age, necessary to our material as well as our moral welfare.

The second need which Dr. Kline points out is the higher percentage of competent teachers. In this we also heartily agree. One reason why the attendance in the public schools is so slim is that some teachers do not make school sufficiently interesting to the children to induce attendance. The superintendent of a large Sunday-school in Richmond said some time ago that he knew the good teachers in his school without seeing their work in class. He could stand at his desk and point out the good teachers by the attendance in this class and that. He had discovered that the good teacher always had a good attendance and the poor teacher a poor attendance. But we cannot hope to secure the best teachers unless we pay good prices. Indeed, it has come to pass that in the country districts very few men are engaged in the work, as they cannot afford to teach for the small compensation allowed.

Dr. Kline's third recommendation is a department of education in two or three of the best State schools and colleges, which will equip our young men to grapple in a masterly fashion with the many-sided phases of modern education. In this connection he says that he can easily count upon the fingers of one hand all the educators of this State whose opinions on educational questions before a competent tribunal would be accepted as authority and as reflecting original independent thinking. That is a startling statement. We think that Dr. Kline must be mistaken, but he is in a position to know what he is talking about, and he is a thoughtful man.

There are other valuable suggestions in the article, and we hope that our readers

will give it the attention and study that it deserves.

Finally, we wish to express our regret that there should arise at this time anything like friction between the State Department of Education and the Southern Educational Association, which is represented in Virginia by such men as Mr. St. George Tucker and Dr. Frazer. There ought not to be any friction here, nor any clash. These men are all working for the same end, although working in different directions, and where there is a common purpose, surely there should be no falling out as to methods. We have taken some pains to find out the aims of this Southern Educational Association, and we have found in it nothing but good. So far as we are able to determine it is a noble organization, and if the people of Virginia will only co-operate with it, it will finally bestow upon us many blessings.

TO "POPULARIZE" THE CONSTITUTION.

It is reported that many members of the Constitutional Convention are enthusiastic over the plan of adopting the Corporation Commission ordinance, and inserting another clause reducing taxation from forty cents to thirty cents on the hundred dollars, with a view to "popularizing" the Constitution to be framed and securing its adoption by the people.

So far as the corporation ordinance is concerned, it seems to be a foregone conclusion that it will be adopted, and it is a waste of time further to discuss the matter. As for the question of reducing taxes, if this can be done without injury to the credit of the State or to the public service, it should be done, but it seems to us that is a question to be left to the Legislature to determine. We are not at all sure that such reduction is practicable, without crippling some of the operations of government.

A great deal is being said about our public school system, and it is very clear that while the State is expending large sums of money for that purpose, the appropriation is not so large as it should be, and not sufficient for the needs even of this generation.

Out of a total levy of forty cents on the hundred dollars nearly fifteen cents goes to the public school system, leaving only about twenty-five cents for interest on the public debt, for public institutions, for pensions and for the current expenses of government.

It is claimed that the increased revenues from the railroads will be sufficient to offset the proposed reduction in taxation. If so, well. But would it not be well enough to wait and see whether or not that will be the case?

AN OUTSIDE VIEW.

Discussing the proposal from Norfolk and the proposal from Richmond concerning the Jamestown Ter-Centenary, the Rockbridge County News says:

The citizens of Richmond show a disposition to contribute most liberally to carry out the programme. It seems to us that an irresistible appeal rises up to Virginians to accord this position to Richmond. It is not only the capital of the State and its commercial metropolis, but its historic capital. No American capital or metropolis anywhere excels it in interest, with its eventful history of nearly 125 years as the capital of our State. The land on which it stands and the contiguous country can claim settlement by colonists little later than Jamestown itself. It was the home of some of the earliest English speaking colonists in the new world, and is worthily distinguished as the direct successor of Jamestown as the capital of Virginia.

Now that Virginia is entering upon a career of epoch-breaking prosperity she should celebrate the momentous fact that the fathers of this great nation on her soil first accomplished settlement; and there is but one place she can appropriately select as a central point to fitly celebrate it, and that is in her prosperous and historic capital city—Richmond.

SOUTH AFRICAN INDUSTRIES.

South African mining stocks are going up by leaps and bounds with every Boer reverse. More and more stamp mills are being allowed to begin operations at Johannesburg, labor and supplies are being brought in rapidly by all railroads, and the gold output is increasing. Restrictions on the industry of mining are abolished, drunkenness is being rigidly put down, the price of dynamite, which was originally a government monopoly, has been greatly reduced, and the fresh air of enterprising methods in business judgment is being allowed to sweep through the stagnant Johannesburg districts.

Some idea of the increase of gold may be had from the fact that 52,597 ounces of the yellow metal were produced in the Rand District for December, against 39,075 for November. All this has laid hold of the popular imagination, and as a result Kaifir shares are booming.

The dividends for the war years were terribly cut down. Of thirteen mining companies which paid from eight to one hundred and fifty per cent. in 1900, only one paid in 1901, and only two in 1902 and 1903, the dividends being about ten per cent. only. The gold output for the same years was correspondingly increased, the output for 1901 being about \$8,000,000, which rose rapidly to \$70,000,000 in 1902, and fell to \$7,000,000 in 1903, and \$5,500,000 in 1901. It is not wonderful with such an enormous decrease in output that the mines were unable to pay dividends. The prospect of ending the war has, however, given a very rosy view to the South African situation.

Many Transvaal stocks, says the Baltimore Sun, are as high now as in 1895 and advancing. Others are twice as high as they were then, while the general list is climbing. Rhodesian stocks are not so active. Still the Chartered Company's stock, par \$5, sells at \$22, and 20 out of a list of 37 stocks sell above par, the Rhodesian Exploration stock selling at above \$32 per share. The De Beers Diamond shares are phenomenal, selling at 43 times par. Evidently a wild speculative movement is in prospect.

TOBACCO UNDER COVER.

The Blackstone Courier says:

We print elsewhere a very interesting article from the Richmond Times upon the tented growth of tobacco in Connecticut. It seems that some of the covered over with canvas and the tobacco grown underneath. There was no report, however, whether the returns measured up to the output. Unless this be true the ex-

periment is of no practical value to tobacco growers.

The article will doubtless be read with much interest.

The first trial under cover of one-third of an acre yielded, we are told, 700 pounds of tobacco, and the product sold for \$475.70, or nearly 70 cents a pound, while tobacco grown in the rural way seldom brings, it is claimed, more than 25 cents a pound.

From the Tariffville (Connecticut) fields to which The Times referred the planter picked from 1,600 to 2,000 pounds to the acre, but the money value of the crop had not, at last reports, been determined. However, we are informed that the careful judgment of unprejudiced tobacco men, obtained by tests, is that this first attempt has produced tobacco which is the equal of the best Sumatra leaf for wrappers.

TAKE UP THE CROSS.
(Selected for The Times.)

"He that loveth father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he that loveth son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he that taketh not his cross and followeth after Me is not worthy of Me. He that findeth his life shall lose it; and he that loseth his life for My sake shall find it."—St. Matt. x, 37, 39.

The Master here lays down the rule of service. He knows the way we must take and the daily trials which will beset our path. He does not allure us by enticing words, of ease and joy and glory. He states a fact which none can mistake. We are to expect trouble in this world; and we must make up our minds to receive it.

Whether we are ministers or hearers, whether we teach or are taught, it makes no difference. We must each carry a cross. None can escape. We either can carry it patiently for His sake or sulily—because we must.

Poverty, ill health, sorrow, alienation of friends, weary heart-sickness, buffetings of Satan; these and many other hardships make up the cross we must carry. We must submit to the loss of the favor of men; we must endure hardships; we must deny ourselves daily in many, many ways, unseen by man and known only to God, if we would reach heaven at last. If necessary, we must be content to love even life itself for Christ's sake. So long as the world, the Devil and our own hearts are what they are these things must be so.

It is upon a preparedness for suffering that Christ takes His followers. He told them from the first that they were not worthy of Him, if they were not willing to part with all for His sake. Men do not hesitate at these difficulties which necessarily attend their profession and which they count upon when they undertake that profession. They will either cheerfully submit to these fatigues and troubles or disclaim the advantages and privileges of their profession.

Now, the foundation of Christ's discipleship is laid in such a temper and disposition as will make suffering light and easy to them. In the Christian's profession they are reckoned unworthy the dignity and felicity of it that put not such a value upon their interest in Christ as to prefer Him before any other interests.

They cannot expect the gain of a bargain which will not come up to the terms of it. These terms are now settled; if religion is worth anything it is worth everything. Therefore, all who believe the truth of it will come up to the price of it, and they who make it their business and bliss will make everything else yield to it.

Those who like not Christ on these terms may leave Him at their peril, it is encouraging that whatever we leave or lose or suffer for Christ we are only the gainers thereby. The terms are simply only that we must prefer Christ.

First, before our nearest and dearest relations, father, mother, son or daughter. These relations are used because among them there is little room left for discord and envy. There is commonly more room for love. Children must love their parents; parents must love their children. But if they love them better than Christ they are unworthy of Him. As we must not be deterred from following Christ by the hatred of our relations, so we must not be drawn from Him by their love.

Secondly, before our ease and safety. We must take up our cross and follow Him, else we are not worthy of Him. Here observe that they who would follow Christ must expect their cross. No person is excused, no day exempted; no more—they must wait for it to be laid upon unwilling shoulders; they must go forward and "take it up." In taking up the cross we must follow the Master's example, and bear it as He did. It is a great encouragement to us when we meet with crosses, that in bearing them we follow Christ, who Himself hath showed us the way. And if we follow Him faithfully He will lead us through sufferings like His, to glory with Him hereafter.

A man is at liberty to lose or destroy himself. But he that will part with life rather than deny Christ shall find it in His unspeakable advantage eternal life with Him forevermore.

If we do not carry the cross we cannot wear the crown.

They are best prepared for the life to come that sit most low to this present life.

We have heard of the necessity of taking up the cross and denying ourselves. Have we taken it up? Are we carrying it daily? We have heard of the value of the soul. Do we live as if we believed it?

In another column we print an account of the effort that is being made through the generosity of Mr. Thomas F. Ryan, and the public spirit of the committee to whom this work has been entrusted, of marking the most noteworthy points of historic interest that were made famous during the late war. As we understand it, it is not the intention to mark battlefields, but if possible to define the exact spot at which some striking event occurred. For example, the "Bloody Angle," or the spot at which General Lee surrendered, or that at which General Jackson was shot. There must be many individuals to whom the exact location of these points is known, and we think it would be a valuable addition to the historical information of this State if

this knowledge could be brought to the attention of the public. It would certainly serve to accurately describe many places which are now only vaguely known. The Times will be happy to print letters conveying this information.

The society weekly called "First Families," which made its appearance in Richmond last autumn, and was bought out recently by I. N. Jones & Son, has been materially enlarged and improved by them, and comes now from their offices under its new name "The Echo," full of the society, literary and dramatic news of Richmond and of the South, dressed in the best style of the Jones' excellent printing and engraving establishment, and full of bright promise for the future.

That is a touching story in the evening papers of yesterday concerning the colored woman in distress and the reporters. The men who gather news appear to some to be heartless, but never a greater error. The reporters see all sides of life, and see human nature in all its frailty. They despise pretenders and crooks, but they are full of sympathy, and are ever ready to lend a helping hand to those who are in distress.

With current issue, The Old Dominion Sun, which heretofore appeared under the management of Messrs. S. Brown Allen and R. A. Fulwiler, comes out under new management, being now owned and edited by Messrs. M. Bots Lewis and Harry T. Voorhees. It is one of the ablest Republican newspapers in the State, and we have read its opinions with profit, if not always with pleasure. We like an honest opponent.

VIRGINIA TOPICS.

The Negro.

Commenting on some remarks of the Farmville Herald concerning the poor results of negro schooling, the Salem Times-Register says:

While that is true to a very great extent, the fact cannot be denied that there are, in this section, at least, many notable exceptions to the class complained of. The Farmville Sun was a large constituency of very excellent colored citizens. Among them are enterprising business men, conducting stores, shops, etc., while others are teachers, laborers and artisans. On all occasions they show a commendable interest in the welfare of their State and are as ready to condemn the acts of the lawless and worthless among their race as are the whites. To deprive them and their families of the blessing of public education would be as unjust as it is dangerous and useless to confer it upon the other class. That a great deal of money is wasted in the attempt to educate, by public education, certain elements of both races, who refuse to profit by it, we are ready to concede, though it is a sad and a disgraceful fact, yet shall the worthy of either race be made to suffer because of the unworthy, who are surely in the minority, is the great question to be settled by those to whom the problem has been committed for determination.

The Lunenburg Murder.

It is not often that our section of Virginia is called upon to report horrible crimes and murders, as we have been blessed in this respect, still we cannot hope to escape them entirely. We must expect our troubles along with our blessings and be prepared to accept what is sent to us.

It is natural, however, that when such a gold-broiled affair as the recent murder of Mrs. Faust, in Lunenburg, a full account of which appears in this paper, takes place, a sad and a disgraceful fact, yet shall the worthy of either race be made to suffer because of the unworthy, who are surely in the minority, is the great question to be settled by those to whom the problem has been committed for determination.

To hold this spirit of revenge in check, however, is a duty we owe ourselves, society and that this spirit has been held in check by the citizens of Lunenburg county in the present instance is truly commendable. They have undergone a trying ordeal, they still have it upon their shoulders, but they are bearing it bravely.

Not only have they the present crime to excite them, but fresh in their memory still clings the recollection of a few years ago when a similar crime was committed within their borders. They felt then and still feel that justice was not done them at that time, and in this there is no doubt of their correctness. They are a brave people, though, and while the sores made then are not yet healed, they are determined to be conservative in spite of the instigation of the press to resist with all their determination at their command what they feel may be further imposition unless provoked beyond endurance, the law will be permitted to take its course. What more can be expected of them?—Blackstone Courier.

The Negro and His Pistol.

Speaking of the pistol toting habit, we believe our justices of the peace should exercise more vigilance in seeing that the culprits are caught and convicted. Every young male negro in the county makes it a point to have his pistol these days—Eastern Shore Herald.

Education and Good Roads.

Next to the Constitutional Convention, the subjects which are most engaging the attention of the people of Virginia just now are those of popular education and good roads. Hon. Henry St. George Tucker has resigned his position as dean of the law faculty of Washington and Lee University in order to enter upon the work of stirring popular interest in education in the State, with a view to improving the present situation. More recently, Mr. W. S. Copeland, of the editorial staff of The Richmond Times, has been making a tour of the southern counties, and reports educational conditions by no means ideal.

The Southern Railway's good roads train has further stimulated the already growing interest in good roads, and there is throughout the State a general demand for better roads.

In regard to both these questions, Loudoun has much upon which to be congratulated. Not only do our schools last longer than they do in most of the other parts of the State, but we believe the average of the teachers as to ability and efficiency is much higher, and the schools are in every way better equipped.

Our roads, too, will compare favorably with any in Virginia, and upon the whole, we believe that the money appropriated for this purpose is carefully and wisely spent.—Leesburg Record.

IS LIFE WORTH LIVING?
(By a Backward Poet.)

If a liver would live,
As a liver should live,
And keep from all liver ills;
He should take for his liver
That certain best liver-giver,
Dr. David's Best Liver Pills.

CASTORIA
For Infants and Children.
The Kind You Have Always Bought
Bears the Signature of *Wm. D. Dr. J. C. Williams*

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.
EDUCATIONAL NEEDS OF VIRGINIA.

By PROF. LINUS W. KLINE, B. S., Ph. D.

PART I.

To say that the children of Virginia are as deserving of first-class teachers, school-houses and appurtenances as children elsewhere is to utter a platitude, and, yet, every honest, sympathetic, competent observer knows that our educational machinery is among the poorest in the Union. This chaotic and inefficient condition of our schools exists in spite of the fact that Virginia is giving and has always given liberally of her substance for their support.

The scholastic product of our schools is of such inferior quality, the teaching is so poor, the supervision is so farcical and negligent and public sentiment so lethargic that competent critics and educators have thus far viewed the situation either in pitying silence or expressed themselves in terms of humiliation or of disgust, or of severe ridicule. So great and general is the dissatisfaction that judicial candor and constructive criticisms are conspicuously absent in their utterances. Adverse destructive criticism is the order of the day. Of course our tyro can indulge in that sort of thing, and it may be pardonable when confined to the light operative affairs of life. Our imperative educational needs impel us to attend to some of the fundamental problems of society and of the welfare of our State no trifling. The material, social, intellectual and aesthetic welfare of our State and people are involved in our educational status. It behooves every good citizen to face about and talk and write and think and act on constructive lines.

The present condition of our schools is the product of several causes or rather the direct result of several needs. I propose to treat very briefly in this and a subsequent article only three of the needs, which in my judgment are fundamental and when once supplied will cover many minor defects. I shall not attempt to present them in the order of their importance, as they are all absolutely essential to the making of an educated people able to appreciate and react on the complex forces of modern life. We need (1) a higher public sentiment, (2) a higher percentage of competent teachers, and (3) a Department of Education in two or three of our best State schools and colleges which will equip our young men to grapple in a masterly fashion with the many-sided phases of modern education. Permit me to state in this connection that so far as I know, I can easily count on the fingers of one hand all the educators of this State whose opinions on educational questions before a competent tribunal would be accepted as authority and as reflecting original independent thinking. This ought not to be in a State so rich in history and great deeds.

We stand in need of a strong, aggressive, irresistible high-spirited public sentiment. The causes leading up to its present impotent, indifferent and low idealized attitude toward education need not detain us here. Let us focus our attention on the hard fact that the present power of public sentiment in affairs educational and the efficiency of our schools are on the same level. Public sentiment determines the breadth and other's value, strength and power. Public sentiment determines the breadth and height of human standards in every activity of life. It regulates the momentum and sets limitations to human progress, it is regarded by some as the primal force in all social and civic movements, or again as the source of all large human endeavors. Think what a powerful ally to our Constitutional Convention would be an enlightened public sentiment on educational questions. To increase the momentum of our educational machinery, we must raise its source. Public sentiment must raise its standards and ideals, it must be more exacting. At present it is not only too indifferent, but it is too easily satisfied, too ready to bestow praise on petty efforts and men. Let us quit this and for the sake of excellence become Spartan-like in our rewards and praises.

The available forces that can create and direct public sentiment are the press, the pulpit, social organizations and the education of the State. Richmond enjoys the honor of having the first newspaper and first organization of philanthropic men and women consecrated to the cause of education. Now let Norfolk, Lynchburg, Danville, Staunton and other cities of the Commonwealth do likewise and within a few years their influence would be felt and bear fruit in the remotest parts. We have been trifling with educational affairs too long, the reward is our last prestige in every field of learning, in both applied and speculative scholarship. To regain our former prestige, to line up to our opportunities, to even make the best use of our material wealth, will require years of patient, hard, unselfish work by every one of us.

An effective system of education is a product of slow growth, the result of the labor of many hands and minds through every year. The inactivity of the educators of the State—there are exceptions of course—has been marked as it is inexcusable. What are the members of the faculties of our several State schools and colleges doing toward acquainting themselves and in turn others with the real conditions of our educational machinery? Are we not over conservative, over diffident and timid when confronted by civic and social problems of large proportions? Are we not oftentimes as impervious to the hints and suggestions and lessons of new conditions, new social, civic, economic and industrial ways and activities as are the incrusts of creeds of theology? Are we not too jealous about maintaining our poise, equanimity, dignity and other professional clap-trap in the midst of crying needs?

It seems absurd, if not impertinent, to even hint as to the character of the work which the college professor might do toward creating and shaping public opinion, and fixing standards of excellence. Surely it would be an economic waste for him to head a torch-light procession, do public "stunts" in his specialty, or act as "spell-binder" at educational barbecues. There are numerous quiet ways in keeping with his tastes and profession by which he could accomplish permanent good for education. I happen to know that some of our professors are doing just this kind of way—may it become the rule rather than remain the exception.

Of the several forces which shape public sentiment, none is more potent than the pulpit. The people of Virginia have a right to call upon her clergy to aid in every appropriate way the cause education—one of the surest safeguards of peace. Ignorance causes misunderstandings which in turn cause war. A plea for education is a plea for the continuance of peace. Clergymen, you have come to the aid of our people in times of war and great national crises; we now ask that you come to our aid in times of peace to build more securely the foundations of peace.

Farmville, Va., February 15, 1902.
(TO BE CONTINUED.)

STUDENT LIFE IN THE COLLEGES.
Organizing the Teams for Base-Ball Season.
AFFAIRS AT THE UNIVERSITY
Preparations for Decennial Celebration at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute—The Cadets at V. M. I. Jubilant Over Charleston Trip.

(Special Dispatch to The Times.)
ALEXANDRIA, Va., Feb. 15.—The corps of cadets at the Virginia Military Institute are jubilant over their proposed trip to the Charleston Exposition, the latter part of April. They expect to leave here April 25th, and will be absent eight days. General Shipps has tendered the corps to Governor Letcher, who expects to have him visit the exposition at that time. The boys from the "West Point of the South," always show up well and will on this occasion.

VA. POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE
Preparing for Decennial Celebration—The Base Ball Schedule.
(Special Dispatch to The Times.)
BLACKSBURG, Va., Feb. 15.—An interesting programme has been decided upon for the decennial celebration of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute. There will be appropriate exercises to include the unveiling of tablets to the memory of Professors Christain and Pitts and the presentation of a portrait of Dr. McBoyle.

By the closing of the term a souvenir volume will be published, which shall set forth the marvelous growth of the institution during the decade. The faculty increased from nine to thirty-four, the attendance from one hundred and sixty to four hundred and seventy, the campus from twenty-five to fifty acres and the number of buildings from fifteen to forty-two.

The book will contain views of the campus and buildings past and present. Photographs of the past and present faculties, board of visitors and other students, board of visitors and an engraving of Dr. McBoyle. A large number of old

cadets have already made arrangements to attend the above mentioned exercises and the town will be full to overflowing.

The cadets during the past week have had play days for skating, the thermometer not being above the freezing points since the second day of this month. Manager J. M. Ham of the base-ball team has made the following dates for this year for Virginia Polytechnic Institute:

April 3, V. M. I. at Charleston, S. C.
April 5, Clemson College, at Charleston, S. C.
April 7, South Carolina College at Columbia, S. C.
April 7, Davidson College, at Charlotte, N. C.
April 9, University of Virginia, at Charlottesville, Va.
April 12, Open.
April 13, Washington and Lee, in Roanoke, Va.
April 19, Roanoke College at Roanoke, Va.
April 25, King's College at Blacksburg, Va.
May 2, University of Tennessee at Blacksburg, Va.
May 3, University of Tennessee, at Blacksburg, Va.
May 4, Kentucky and Henry College, at Blacksburg, Va.
May 10, St. Albans College at Blacksburg, Va.
May 12, St. Albans College at Radford, Va.

Arrangements for more games have been made but dates not decided upon. The team will be better this year than heretofore most of the old team are here again, and some are working hard for what vacant places will be on the team. Training has begun in the gymnasium with the play of basketball. The athletic grounds this year, which will be used for basketball, will be the new gymnasium for two diamonds and two baseball diamonds, once during practice season and hereafter the opponents of V. P. I. will have to look sharp to save their colors.

SAINT ALBANS.
Will Have a Fast Base Ball Team—Spring Schedule.
(Special Dispatch to The Times.)
RADFORD, Va., Feb. 15.—Saint Albans as usual will have a fast base ball team this season. Eight of last year's men are back. They are Captain Tritton, Daniel, Hobbie, McGeorge, Bagby, R. Munger, E. C. Munger and others.

About twenty new applicants have already applied and among the promising ones are Kenneth, Walton, Harsha, F. ones at Staunton, Lexington, April 24th, Richmond College, at Bedford; April 25th, Richmond College, at Richmond; April 26th, Richmond College, at Bedford; April 27th, Richmond College, at Bedford; April 28th, Richmond College, at Bedford; April 29th, Richmond College, at Bedford; April 30th, Richmond College, at Bedford; May 1st, Richmond College, at Bedford; May 2nd, Richmond College, at Bedford; May 3rd, Richmond College, at Bedford; May 4th, Richmond College, at Bedford; May 5th, Richmond College, at Bedford; May 6th, Richmond College, at Bedford; May 7th, Richmond College, at Bedford; May 8th, Richmond College, at Bedford; May 9th, Richmond College, at Bedford; May 10th, Richmond College, at Bedford; May 11th, Richmond College, at Bedford; May 12th, Richmond College, at Bedford; May 13th, Richmond College, at Bedford; May 14th, Richmond College, at Bedford; May 15th, Richmond College, at Bedford; 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